

✓ Career and Technical Education Plans

✓ Instructional Technology Plan

✓ Relevant Curriculum w/ 21st Century Skills

Secondary Inclusion Plans

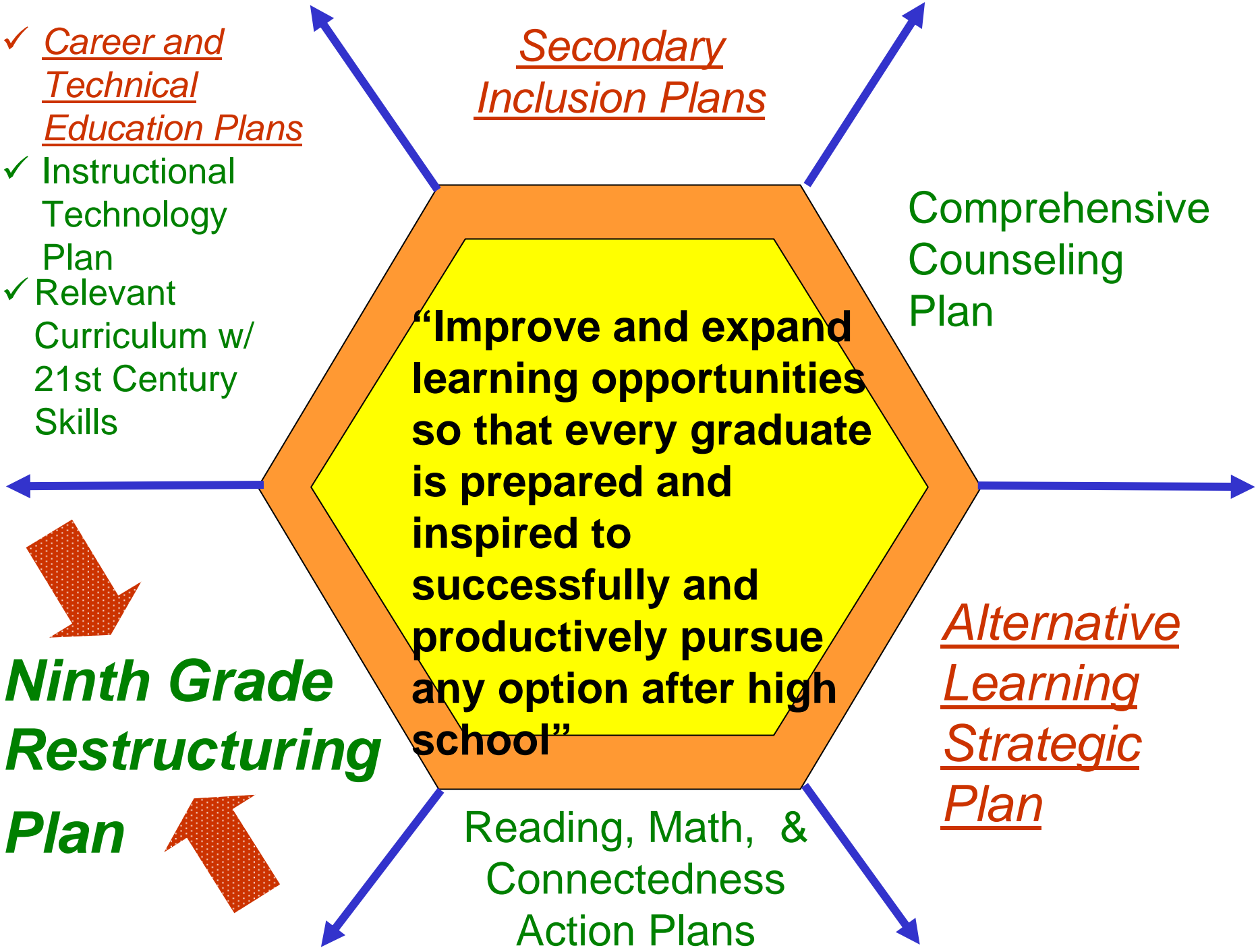
Comprehensive Counseling Plan

“Improve and expand learning opportunities so that every graduate is prepared and inspired to successfully and productively pursue any option after high school”

Alternative Learning Strategic Plan

Reading, Math, & Connectedness Action Plans

Ninth Grade Restructuring Plan



What is a “*Ninth Grade Learning Center*”? ⁽¹⁾

- ...increasingly common form of **smaller learning community**.
- ...a **school-within-a-school** organized around **interdisciplinary teams** of teachers in **close proximity** or sharing a specified area...

What is a “*Ninth Grade Learning Center*”? (2)

...*All 9th graders connected* to teams of caring staff committed to use the best instructional strategies to **teach the curriculum as well as address students' needs more personally** than in a traditional high school structure...

What is a “*Ninth Grade Learning Center*”? ⁽³⁾

... Teachers work **collaboratively** so that through **relationships and relevant curriculum**, ninth grade students develop or hone personal and academic skills, while establishing **connections to their academic and career pathways** that will define their next three years of high school...

Why?

1st Measure of Success

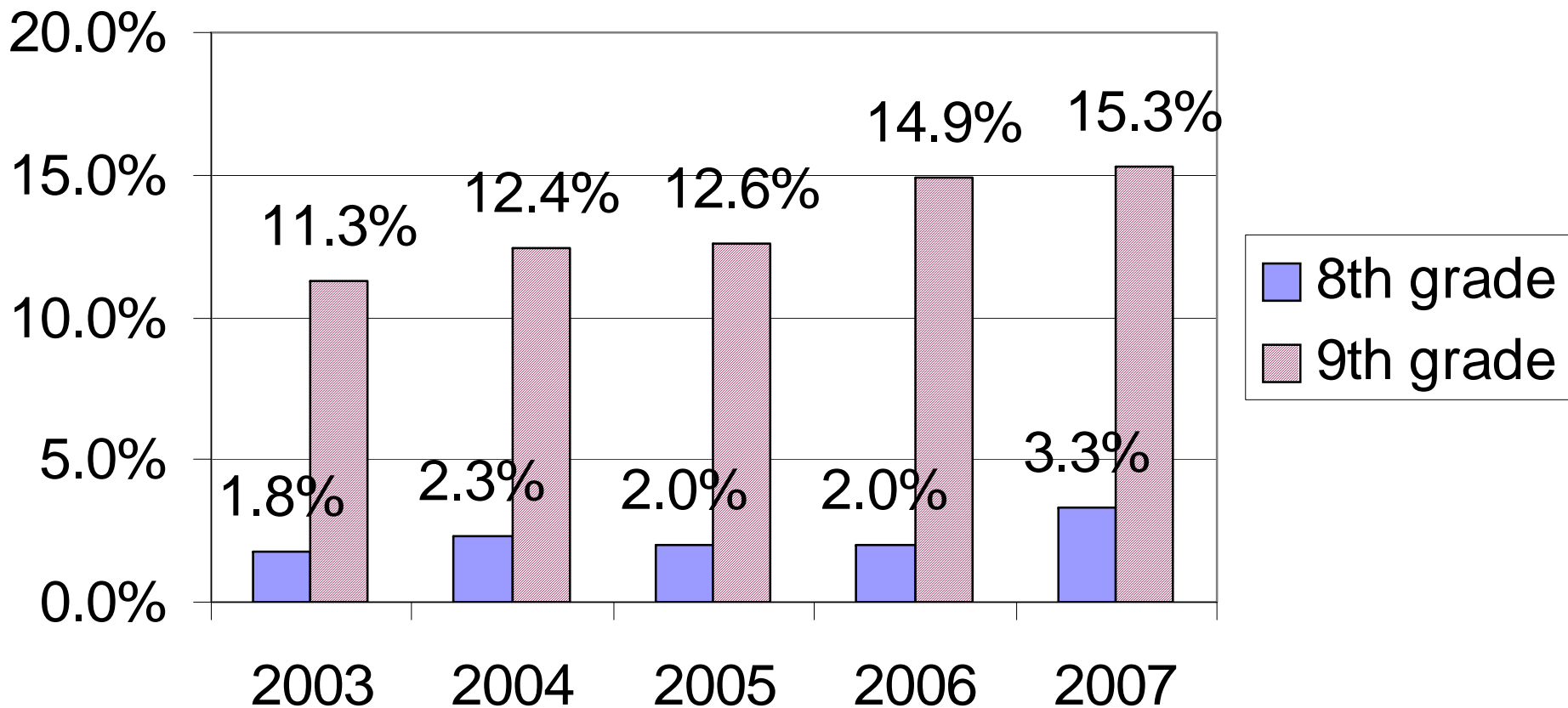
Improved Attendance and
Reduced Truancy

Measured by

(a) the rate of habitual truancy, and

(b) overall attendance.

**Table 2. Habitual Truants as a Percentage of the Whole Grade:
8th Grade vs. 9th Grade**



Why?

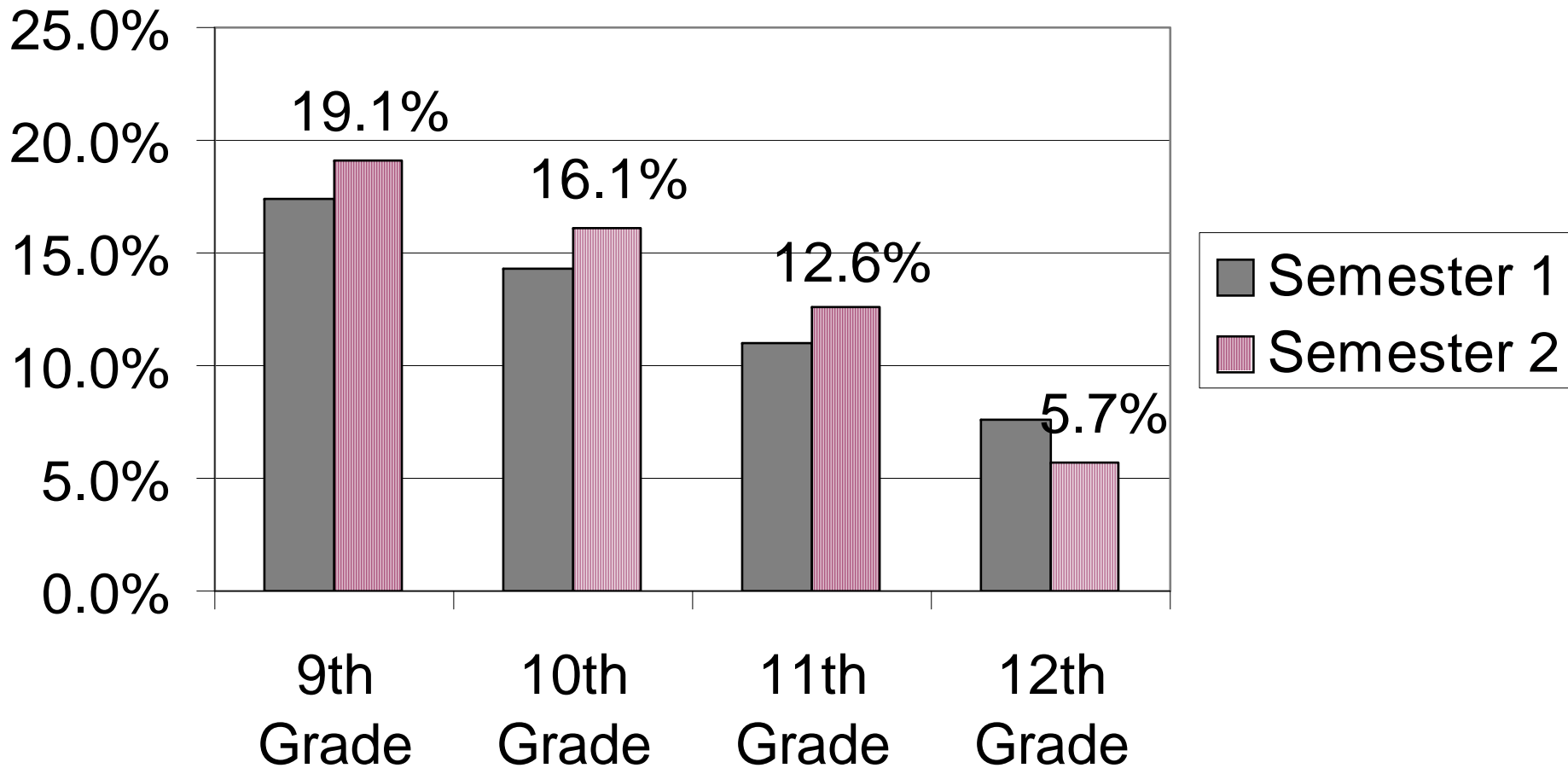
2nd Measure of Success

Improved Academic Achievement

Measured by

- (a) the percentage of students losing credit and/or failing one or more courses during the freshman year*
- (b) the average Grade Point Average of freshmen, and*
- (c) proficiency levels on the 10th grade Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE).*

Table 4. Percentage of Students Failing 1 or more Core Academic Classes (2002-2007 Averaged)



Why?

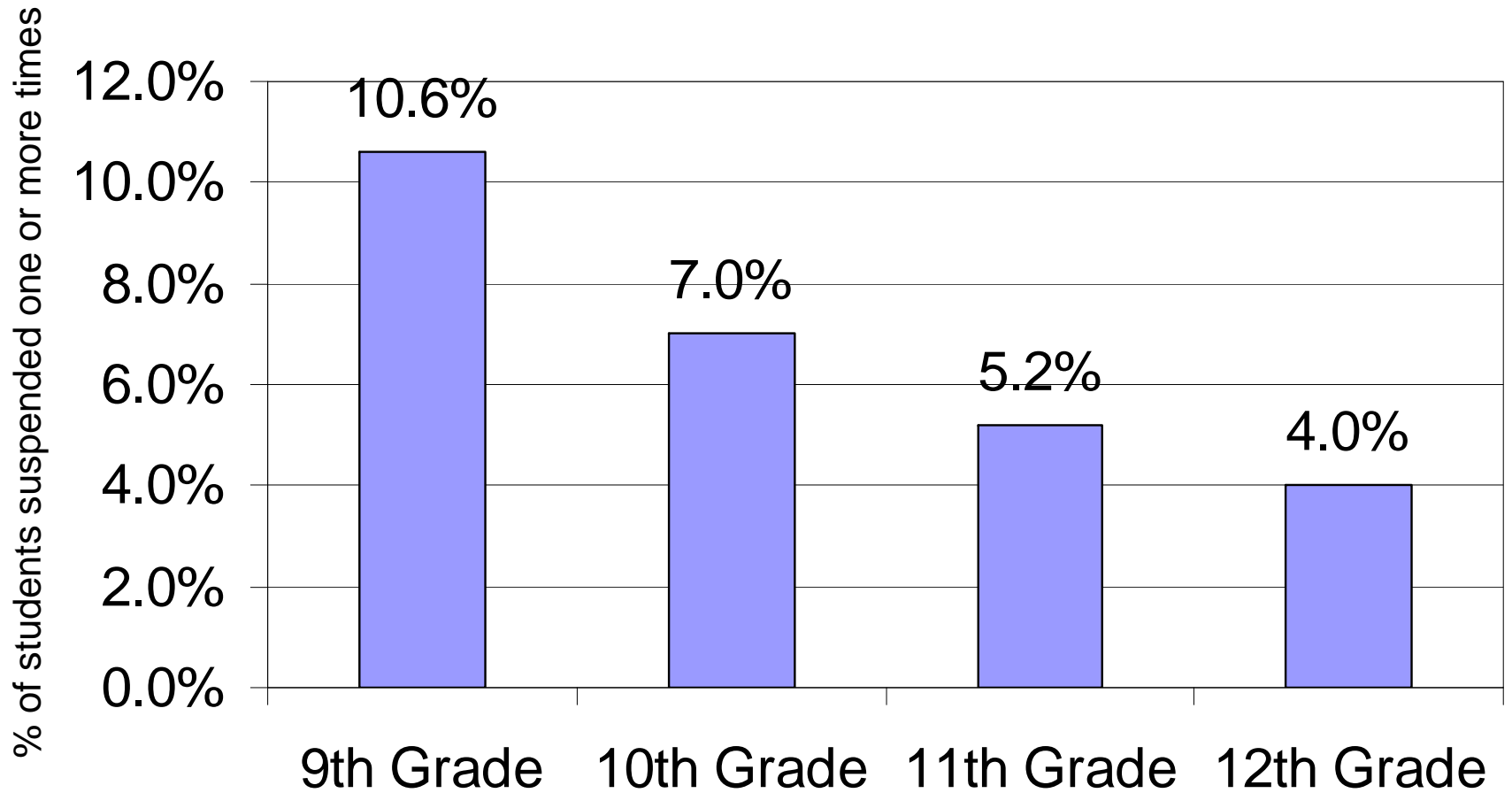
3rd Measure of Success

Greater Connection to School

Measured by

- (a) the rate of participation in co- and extracurricular activities*
- (b) rates of in and out of school suspensions, and*
- (c) surveys and/or focus groups of student perceptions.*

Table 1. Out of School Suspension Rates (1998-2006 averaged)



Why?

4th Measure of Success

Improved Planning for the Future

Measured by the number of 9th grade student who prepare and begin implementation of an individualized school-to-future learning plan (ILP) based on career pathways.

On August 13, 2007, the School Board adopted the following motions:

1. To establish a true vision for the high school, the entire staff, through a representative committee, should be engaged in the process of creating this new program and structure for 9th grade students.
2. Create a 9th Grade “Learning Center” that includes as many of the following features as possible and practical:

- (a) Consolidated space - core classes & lockers
- (b) Master schedule changes to permit functioning small units within a school
- (c) Interdisciplinary curricular teams (such as houses, neighborhoods, etc.)
- (d) Specialized student services programming
- (e) Student – student, cross-grade mentors
- (f) Single-grade lunch period
- (g) New practices for effective two-way communication leading to closer school – family connections
- (h) Emphasis on multicultural respect
- (i) Meaningful transition planning, and
- (j) Career pathways to define and inspire the final three years of high school.

The process creating new structures for 9th grade

- Committee involved twenty-two teacher volunteers
- Eleven meetings from September 17 to December 3
- Readings and School data were reviewed and studied
- Discussion: assessing student needs, departmental concerns, and creating new structures
- Team Visits to: Verona High School, Oshkosh West High School, and D.C. Everest Jr. High School
- Departmental and Faculty meetings provided “updates” throughout the three months of study
- The process was collaborative, allowing many faculty an opportunity to express ideas and debate their value

The
Sun Prairie Plan
to Improve
Ninth Grade Outcomes
(2008-2011)

9th Grade "House"

- 2008-2009: English & Science (2 part house)
- 2009-2010: English, Science, & Social Studies or Math (3 part house)
- When an 8 period day is implemented (2010 or 2011?): English, Science, Social Studies & Math (4 part house)

9th Grade "House"

- Staff development for interdisciplinary teaming.
- Shared students / every 9th grader in a house
- Common preparation periods
- Proximate classroom locations, whenever possible *(the building is not yet designed for 'houses' in one location)*

9th Grade Logistics

- Centralizing as many 9th grade classrooms as possible.
- 9th grade locker space in the centralized area.

Critical Curriculum Planning Ahead

- **Math:** modify 9th grade offerings (currently 2 primary offerings in 8th grade; 5 primary offerings in 9th grade...)
- **Social Studies:** What class to offer as the core requirement?
- **Physical Education:** Required or elective in 9th grade?
- **Foreign Language:** Managing the 7th- 8th – 9th grade “bridges”

9th Grade Lunch period

- Fall of 2008
- Closed Campus
- Existing space enhancement
- Study intramurals

9th grade student services

- Associate Principal (Planning Principal)
Fall 2008
- Career Pathways / Individualized
Learning Plans: Pilot 2008/2009
Implement 2009/2010
- Enhanced school-to-school transition
planning (5th to 6th; 7th to 8th; 9th to 10th)
2008-2009-2010-2011